TRAVELZOO INC Form DEF 14A April 30, 2007

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 SCHEDULE 14A

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant þ

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant o

- Check the appropriate box:
- <sup>o</sup> Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- b Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- o Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Travelzoo Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- b No fee required.
- <sup>o</sup> Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
  - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
  - (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
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  - (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
  - (3) Filing Party:
  - (4) Date Filed:

Travelzoo Inc. 590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor New York, NY 10022

May 10, 2007

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Travelzoo Inc. on June 14, 2007. We will hold the meeting at The Warwick Hotel, 65 West 54th Street, New York, New York 10019 at 10:00 a.m. local time.

In connection with the meeting, we enclose a notice of the meeting, a proxy statement and a proxy card. Detailed information relating to Travelzoo s activities and operating performance is contained in our 2006 Annual Report on Form 10-K, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which is also enclosed.

Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting of Stockholders, please vote your shares via mail with the enclosed proxy card. Please note that you can attend the meeting and vote in person, even if you have previously voted by proxy. If you plan to attend the meeting in person, please provide advance notice to Travelzoo by checking the box on your proxy card. In addition, you may provide notice to Travelzoo that you plan to attend in person by delivering written notice to Travelzoo s Corporate Secretary at 590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, New York 10022.

If you hold your shares in street name through a bank, broker, or other nominee, please bring identification and proof of ownership, such as an account statement or letter from your bank or broker, for admittance to the meeting. An admission list containing the names of all of those planning to attend will be placed at the registration desk at the entrance to the meeting. You must check in to be admitted.

Travelzoo will make available an alphabetical list of stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting for examination by any stockholder during ordinary business hours at Travelzoo s principal executive offices, located at 590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, New York 10022, for ten days prior to the meeting. A stockholder may examine the list for any legally valid purpose related to the meeting.

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, we look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Ralph Bartel Chairman of the Board of Directors, President, and Chief Executive Officer

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# TRAVELZOO INC.

590 Madison Avenue 21st Floor New York, New York 10022

# NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

# To Be Held on June 14, 2007

To the Stockholders of Travelzoo Inc.:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Travelzoo Inc., a Delaware corporation, will be held on Thursday, June 14, 2007, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at The Warwick Hotel, 65 West 54th Street, New York, New York 10019, for the following purposes:

1. To elect five directors for terms expiring in 2008; and

2. To transact such other business as may properly come before the Meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the Meeting.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on April 17, 2007 may vote at the Meeting. Your vote is important. Whether you plan to attend the Annual Meeting or not, **please cast your vote by completing, dating and signing the enclosed proxy card and returning it via mail to the address indicated.** If you attend the meeting and prefer to vote in person, you may do so even if you have previously voted by proxy.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

TRAVELZOO INC.

Wayne Lee Corporate Secretary

# PROXY STATEMENT

#### FOR THE TRAVELZOO INC. 2007 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

# INFORMATION ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING

#### Why am I receiving these proxy materials?

Travelzoo s Board of Directors is soliciting proxies to be voted at the 2007 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. This proxy statement includes information about the issues to be voted upon at the meeting.

On or about May 10, 2007, we intend to mail these proxy materials to all stockholders of record at the close of business on April 17, 2007. On the record date, there were 15,250,479 shares of our common stock outstanding.

#### Where and when is the Annual Meeting?

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders will take place on June 14, 2007 at The Warwick Hotel, 65 West 54th Street, New York, New York 10019. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. local time.

#### What am I voting on?

We are asking our stockholders to elect five directors.

#### How many votes do I have?

You have one vote for each share of our common stock that you owned at the close of business on April 17, 2007, the record date. These shares include:

Shares held directly in your name as the stockholder of record, and

Shares held for you as the beneficial owner through a broker, bank, or other nominee in street name.

# If I am a stockholder of record, how can I vote my shares?

You can vote by proxy or in person.

# How do I vote by proxy?

If you are a stockholder of record, you may vote your proxy by mail. If you receive a paper copy of the Proxy Statement, simply mark the enclosed proxy card, date and sign it, and return it in the postage paid envelope provided. If you receive the Proxy Statement via e-mail, please print the attached proxy card, date and sign it, and return it via mail to Travelzoo Inc., Attention: Corporate Secretary, 590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, New York 10022.

If you vote by proxy, the persons named on the card (your proxies ) will vote your shares in the manner you indicate. You may specify whether your shares should be voted for all, some or none of the nominees for director or any other proposals properly brought before the Annual Meeting. If you sign your proxy card and do not indicate specific

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choices, your shares will be voted FOR the election of all nominees for director. If any other matter is properly brought before the meeting, your proxies will vote in accordance with their best judgment. At the time of submitting this Proxy Statement for printing, we knew of no matter that is required to be acted on at the Annual Meeting other than those discussed in this Proxy Statement.

If you wish to give a proxy to someone other than the persons named on the enclosed proxy card, you may strike out the names appearing on the card and write in the name of any other person, sign the proxy, and deliver it to the person whose name has been substituted.

# May I revoke my proxy?

If you give a proxy, you may revoke it in any one of three ways:

Submit a valid, later-dated proxy before the Annual Meeting,

Notify our Corporate Secretary in writing before the Annual Meeting that you have revoked your proxy, or

Vote in person at the Annual Meeting.

# How do I vote in person?

If you are a stockholder of record, you may cast your vote in person at the Annual Meeting.

# If I hold shares in street name, how can I vote my shares?

You can submit voting instructions to your broker or nominee. In most instances, you will be able to do this over the Internet or by mail. Please refer to the voting instruction card included in the materials provided by your broker or nominee.

# What vote is required to approve each proposal?

Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote with respect to each matter on which it is entitled to vote. Our directors are elected by a plurality of votes, which means that the nominees who receive the greatest number of votes will be elected. Under our bylaws, a majority of the shares present at the meeting in person or by proxy is required for approval of all other items.

In order to have a valid stockholder vote, a stockholder quorum must exist at the Annual Meeting. A quorum will exist when stockholders holding a majority of the outstanding shares of our stock are present at the meeting, either in person or by proxy.

If a broker indicates on its proxy that it does not have authority to vote certain shares held in street name on particular proposals, the shares not voted (broker non-votes) will not have any effect with respect to such proposals. Broker non-votes occur when brokers do not have discretionary voting authority on certain proposals and the beneficial owner has not instructed the broker how to vote on these proposals.

Ralph Bartel holds an aggregate of 7,649,407 shares of our common stock, representing approximately 50.16% of the outstanding shares as of March 31, 2007. He has indicated that he intends to vote in favor of all of the director nominees.

# Who is paying the costs of soliciting these proxies?

We are paying the cost of preparing, printing, mailing and otherwise distributing these proxy materials. We will reimburse banks, brokerage firms, and others for their reasonable expenses in forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners and obtaining their instructions. A few of our officers and employees may also participate in the solicitation, without additional compensation, by telephone, e-mail, other electronic means, or in person.

# Where can I find the voting results of the meeting?

We intend to announce preliminary voting results at the meeting. We will publish the final results in our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the second quarter of 2007, which we intend to file on or before August 9, 2007. You can obtain a copy of the Form 10-Q by logging on to Travelzoo s investor relations Web site at *www.travelzoo.com/ir*, by calling the Securities and Exchange Commission at (800) SEC-0330 for the location of the nearest public reference room, or through the EDGAR system at *www.sec.gov*. Information on our Web site does not constitute part of this proxy statement.

# **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS (PROXY ITEM NO. 1)**

Under Travelzoo s certificate of incorporation, the number of directors of Travelzoo is fixed, and may be increased or decreased from time to time, by resolution of the Board of Directors. Each director holds office for a term of one year, until the annual meeting of stockholders next succeeding the director s election and until a successor is elected and qualified or until the earlier resignation or removal of the director. Mr. Ralph Bartel, Mr. Holger Bartel, Mr. Ehrlich, Mr. Neale-May, and Ms. Urso are currently directors of Travelzoo.

# Nominees for a One-Year Term That Will Expire in 2008:

The ages, principal occupations, directorships held and other information as of March 31, 2007, with respect to our nominees are shown below.

| Name                    | Age | Position  |
|-------------------------|-----|---|
| Ralph Bartel, Ph.D.(2)  | 41  | Chairman of the Board of Directors,<br>President, and Chief Executive Officer |
| Holger Bartel, Ph.D.    | 40  | Director and Executive Vice President   |
| David J. Ehrlich(1)     | 44  | Director  |
| Donovan Neale-May(1)(3) | 54  | Director  |
| Kelly M. Urso(1)(2)(3)  | 41  | Director  |

# (1) Member of the Audit Committee

- (2) Member of the Compensation Committee
- (3) Member of the Disclosure Committee

Each of the director nominees listed above was elected to be a director at the Company s Annual Meeting of Stockholders held on June 1, 2006. Our board of directors has determined that each of Mr. Ehrlich, Mr. Neale-May, and Ms. Urso meet the independence requirements of the listing standards of the National Association of Securities Dealers (the NASD ).

*Ralph Bartel, Ph.D.*, founded Travelzoo in 1998 and has served as our Chairman of the Board of Directors, President and Chief Executive Officer since inception. Prior to September 2006, Mr. Bartel also served as the Company s Chief Financial Officer. Prior to his founding of Travelzoo, from 1996 to 1997, Mr. Bartel was a Managing Assistant at Gruner + Jahr AG, the magazine division of Bertelsmann AG. Mr. Bartel holds a Ph.D. in Communications from the University of Mainz, Germany, a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, an MBA in Finance and Accounting from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, and a Master s degree in Journalism from the University of Eichstaett, Germany.

*Holger Bartel, Ph.D.*, has served as a director since June 2005 and was elected Executive Vice President in 2001 after serving as Vice President of Sales and Marketing since 1999. From 1995 to 1998, Mr. Bartel was an Engagement Manager at McKinsey & Company in Los Angeles. From 1992 to 1994, Mr. Bartel was a research fellow at Harvard Business School. Mr. Bartel holds an MBA in Finance and Accounting and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. He is the brother of Ralph Bartel.

*David J. Ehrlich* has served as a director since 1999. Since March 2007, Mr. Ehrlich has served as Chief Executive Officer of ParAccel, Inc., a technology company. From 2003 to 2006, Mr. Ehrlich was Senior Vice President, Marketing and Chief Strategy Officer of NetIQ Corporation. From 1998 to 2002, Mr. Ehrlich was Vice President, Product Management and Strategic Partnering for Visual Networks, Inc. From 1993 to 1998, Mr. Ehrlich worked as a consultant for McKinsey & Company. Mr. Ehrlich holds a bachelor s degree in Sociology from Stanford University, a Master s degree in Industrial Engineering from Stanford University, and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

*Donovan Neale-May* has served as a director since 1999. Since 1987, Mr. Neale-May has been President of Neale-May & Partners, an independent marketing and communications firm with 60 full-time professionals in its Silicon Valley and New York offices. Mr. Neale-May formed the firm in 1987 after running Ogilvy & Mather s West Coast PR operations for five years.

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*Kelly M. Urso* has served as a director since 1999. Since 2003, Ms. Urso has been a principal at K. M. Urso & Company, LLC. From 2001 to 2003, Ms. Urso was a tax attorney with Reynolds & Rowella LLP. From 1997 to 2001, Ms. Urso was the leader of the expatriate tax group at General Electric International, Inc. Ms. Urso holds a bachelor s degree in business administration from the University of Cincinnati and a Juris Doctor degree from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan.

The Board of Directors is not aware that any nominee named in this Proxy Statement is unwilling or unable to serve as a director. If, however, a nominee is unavailable for election, your proxy authorizes the named designees to vote for a replacement nominee if the Board of Directors names one.

# YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS A VOTE FOR THESE NOMINEES.

#### **Board Meetings and Committees**

The Board of Directors has appointed an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee, and a Disclosure Committee. Below is a table indicating the membership of each of the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee, and Disclosure Committee and how many times the Board of Directors and each such committee met in fiscal year 2006. Each of Mr. Ralph Bartel, Mr. Holger Bartel, Mr. Ehrlich, Mr. Neale-May, and Ms. Urso attended at least 75 percent of the total number of meetings of the Board of Directors and of the committees on which he or she serves.

|                         | Board  | Audit  | Compensation | Disclosure |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------------|------------|
| Mr. Ralph Bartel        | Chair  |        | Chair        |            |
| Mr. Holger Bartel       | Member |        |              |            |
| Mr. Ehrlich             | Member | Chair  |              |            |
| Mr. Neale-May           | Member | Member |              | Member     |
| Ms. Urso                | Member | Member | Member       | Chair      |
| Number of 2006 Meetings | 4      | 6      | 1            | 4          |

The Company does not require that directors attend the Annual Meeting. Ralph Bartel, our Chairman of the Board of Directors, and Ms. Urso were the only directors who attended the 2006 Annual Meeting.

# Audit Committee

The Audit Committee s primary responsibilities are to oversee and monitor (i) the integrity of Travelzoo s financial statements, (ii) the qualifications and independence of our independent registered public accounting firm, (iii) the performance of our independent registered public accounting firm and internal audit staff, and (iv) the compliance by Travelzoo with legal and regulatory requirements. A complete description of the committee s responsibilities is set forth in its written charter, a copy of which is attached as Appendix A. The Audit Committee is responsible for appointing the independent registered public accounting firm and is directly responsible for the compensation and oversight of the work of our independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee is composed solely of independent directors as defined in the listing standards of the National Association of Securities Dealers and operates under a written charter adopted by the entire Board of Directors. The Board has determined that Mr. Neale-May qualifies as an audit committee financial expert within the definition of SEC regulations.

#### **Compensation Committee**

The Compensation Committee reviews and approves the compensation and benefits for the Company s executive officers and directors, and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding such matters. The Compensation Committee also approves the Company s non-equity incentive plans. The Compensation Committee further reviews and discusses with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis. The Compensation Committee does not have a charter. The Report of the Compensation Committee is included on page 12.

# **Disclosure** Committee

The Disclosure Committee s primary responsibilities are (i) to design, establish and evaluate controls and other procedures that are designed to ensure the accuracy and timely disclosure of information to the SEC and investment community and (ii) to review and supervise preparation of all SEC filings, press releases and other broadly disseminated correspondence.

# Nominating Committee

Travelzoo does not have a nominating committee of the Board of Directors. Since it is a Controlled Company under Rule 4350(c)(5) of the NASD Manual, on account of the stock ownership by Ralph Bartel, such a committee is not required. Through his share ownership, Mr. Ralph Bartel is in a position to control Travelzoo and to elect our entire board of directors. Mr. Ralph Bartel considers candidates for director nominees.

#### **Communications With Directors**

The board has established a process to receive communications from stockholders. Stockholders and other interested parties may contact any member (or all members) of the board, or the non-management directors as a group, any board committee or any chair of any such committee by mail. To communicate with the board of directors, any individual directors or any group or committee of directors, correspondence should be addressed to the board of directors or any such individual directors or group or committee of directors by either name or title. All such correspondence should be sent c/o Corporate Secretary at Travelzoo Inc., 590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, NY 10022.

All communications received as set forth in the preceding paragraph will be opened by the Corporate Secretary for the sole purpose of determining whether the contents represent a message to our directors. Any contents that are not in the nature of advertising, promotions of a product or service, patently offensive material or matters deemed inappropriate for the board of directors will be forwarded promptly to the addressee. In the case of communications to the board or any group or committee of directors, the Corporate Secretary will make sufficient copies of the contents to send to each director who is a member of the group or committee to which the correspondence is addressed.

# **Audit Committee Report**

The information contained in this report shall not be deemed to be soliciting material or filed with the SEC or subject to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), except to the extent that Travelzoo specifically incorporates it by reference into a document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ) or the Exchange Act.

The Audit Committee oversees Travelzoo s financial reporting process on behalf of your Board of Directors. Management is primarily responsible for the financial statements and reporting processes including the systems of internal controls, while the independent auditors are responsible for performing an independent audit of Travelzoo s consolidated financial statements in accordance with auditing standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB), and expressing an opinion on the conformity of those financial statements with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

In this context, the committee has met and held discussions with management and the independent auditors regarding the Company s audited consolidated financial statements. The committee discussed with Travelzoo s independent auditors the overall scope and plan for their audit. The committee met, at least quarterly, with the independent

auditors, with and without management present, and discussed the results of their examinations, their evaluations of Travelzoo s internal controls, and the overall quality of Travelzoo s financial reporting. Management represented to the committee that Travelzoo s consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The committee has reviewed and discussed the consolidated financial statements with management and the independent auditors, including their judgments as to the quality, not just the acceptability, of Travelzoo s accounting principles and such other matters as are required to be discussed with the committee under auditing standards of the PCAOB.

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Travelzoo s independent auditors also provided to the committee the written disclosures required by the Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 (Independence Discussions with Audit Committees), and the committee discussed with the independent auditors that firm s independence, including those matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61.

In reliance on the reviews and discussions referred to above, the committee recommended to the Board of Directors (and the Board of Directors has approved) that the audited financial statements be included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006 for filing with the SEC. The committee has not yet selected Travelzoo s independent auditors for fiscal year 2007.

While the committee has the responsibilities and powers set forth in its charter, it is not the duty of the committee to plan or conduct audits or to determine that Travelzoo s financial statements are complete and accurate and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This is the responsibility of management and the independent auditor. Nor is it the duty of the committee to conduct investigations or to assure compliance with laws and regulations and Travelzoo s business conduct policies.

Audit Committee

David J. Ehrlich (Chairman) Donovan Neale-May Kelly M. Urso

#### **Director Compensation**

Directors who are employed by the Company or its subsidiaries do not receive compensation for serving as directors. Directors who are not employees of the Company or its subsidiaries are entitled to receive certain retainers and fees. On June 9, 2006, the Compensation Committee reviewed its director compensation policy and determined that adjustments were necessary in order for the Company to attract and retain qualified independent board members. Taking into consideration statistical information provided in the 2006 Director Compensation Report published by the National Association of Corporate Directors, the Compensation Committee adjusted the retainers and meeting fees as follows:

Increase the annual board member retainer to \$30,000 from \$26,000;

Increase the audit committee chair retainer to \$30,000 from \$26,000;

Increase the fee for attendance of a board meeting to \$1,680 from \$1,500;

Increase the fee for attendance of an Audit Committee meeting to \$2,800 from \$2,500;

Increase the fee for attendance of a Disclosure Committee meeting to \$1,680 from \$1,500;

Increase the fee for attendance of a Compensation Committee meeting to \$2,800 from \$2,500; and

Increase the fee for attendance of a strategy meeting to \$4,480 from \$4,000.

We also reimburse non-employee directors for out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with attending meetings.

The following table shows compensation information for Travelzoo s non-employee directors for fiscal year ended December 31, 2006.

|  |  | Change in<br>Pension<br>Value<br>and<br>Nonqualified |
|--|--|--|
| Name                                     | Fees<br>Earned<br>or Paid in Sto<br>Cash Awa<br>(\$) (\$ | rds AwardsCompensation Earnings Compensation Total   |
| Mr. Ehrlich<br>Mr. Neale-May<br>Ms. Urso | \$ 81,480<br>\$ 54,360<br>\$ 59,480                      | \$ 81,480<br>\$ 54,360<br>\$ 59,480                  |

#### Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management

The following table shows the amount of our common stock beneficially owned as of March 31, 2007 by (a) each director and nominee, (b) each named executive officer, (c) all executive officers and directors as a group, and (d) each person known by the Company, as of December 31, 2006, to beneficially own more than 5% of the outstanding shares of common stock. In general, shares beneficially owned include those shares a person has or shares the power to vote, or the power to dispose of.

|   | Beneficial (<br>Number of | Ownership<br>Percent |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Beneficial Owner  | Shares(1)                 | of Total(2)          |
| Directors and Named Executive Officers                      |                           |                      |
| Holger Bartel(3)  | 99,220                    | *                    |
| Ralph Bartel(4)   | 9,820,823                 | 56.37%               |
| David J. Ehrlich  |                           |                      |
| Wayne Lee   |                           |                      |
| Christopher Loughlin  | 550                       | *                    |
| Donovan Neale-May   |                           |                      |
| Shirley Tafoya  |                           |                      |
| Kelly M. Urso(5)  | 17,725                    | *                    |
| Directors and executive officers as a group (10 persons)(6) | 9,938,334                 | 56.92%               |
| Persons Owning More Than 5% of Common Stock                 |                           |                      |
| Prudential Financial, Inc.(7)                               | 967,131                   | 6.34%                |
| 751 Broad Street  |                           |                      |
| Newark, New Jersey 07102                                    |                           |                      |
| Barclays Global Investors, NA(8)                            | 918,482                   | 6.02%                |

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# 45 Fremont Street San Francisco, California 94105

- \* Less than 1%
- (1) Except as otherwise indicated and subject to applicable community property laws, the persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to all their shares of common stock.
- (2) For each person and group indicated in this table, percentage ownership is calculated by dividing the number of shares beneficially owned by such person or group by the sum of 15,250,479 shares of common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2007, plus the number of shares of common stock that such person or group had the right to acquire within 60 days after March 31, 2007.
- (3) Holger Bartel indirectly holds 1% of TZOO Inc., which is the holder of 7,726,674 shares and options to purchase 2,193,349 shares, through HBT Corporation LLC. Includes options to purchase 21,933 shares which are currently exercisable or will be exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2007.

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- (4) Ralph Bartel indirectly holds 99% of TZOO Inc., which is the holder of 7,726,674 shares and options to purchase 2,193,349 shares, through the Ralph Bartel 2005 Trust. Includes options to purchase 2,171,416 shares which are currently exercisable or will be exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2007.
- (5) Consists of options to purchase 17,725 shares which are currently exercisable or will be exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2007.
- (6) Includes options to purchase 2,211,074 shares which are currently exercisable or will be exercisable within 60 days of March 31, 2007.
- (7) Based solely on information reported on a Schedule 13G filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 9, 2007 by Prudential Financial, Inc. As of December 31, 2006, 967,131 shares were beneficially held by Prudential Financial, Inc. of which it possessed sole voting and dispositive power to 268,300 shares and shared voting and dispositive power to 698,831 shares.
- (8) Based solely on information reported on a Schedule 13G filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 23, 2007 by Barclays Global Investors, NA. As of December 31, 2006, 918,482 shares were beneficially held by Barclays Global Investors, NA and its affiliated entities of which it possessed sole voting power to 898,571 shares and dispositive power to 918,482 shares.

# Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Under Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Company s directors, executive officers and the beneficial holders of more than 10% of the Company s common stock are required to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Such directors, executive officers and beneficial holders of more than 10% of the Company s common stock are required by SEC regulations to furnish the Company with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

To the Company s knowledge, based solely on a review of the copies of such forms furnished to the Company or written representations from reporting persons, we believe that during fiscal 2006, all Section 16(a) filing requirements were satisfied on a timely basis with the exception of Shirley Tafoya, our Senior Vice President of Sales, who did not file a Form 3 at the time she became a reporting person of the Company. Ms. Tafoya has advised the Company that she does not hold, and has not held any of the Company s securities.

# **Code of Ethics**

We have adopted a code of ethics that applies to our Chief Executive Officer, our Chief Financial Officer, and our Controller for North America. This code of ethics is posted on our Web site located at *www.corporate.travelzoo.com/governance*. We intend to satisfy the disclosure requirement under Item 10 of Form 8-K regarding an amendment to, or waiver from, a provision of this code of ethics by posting such information on our Web site, at the address and location specified above. A copy of the code of ethics is also available in print to stockholders and interested parties without charge upon written request delivered to our Corporate Secretary at Travelzoo Inc., 590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, NY 10022.

# **Executive Compensation**

**Compensation Discussion and Analysis** 

### **Overview of Compensation Program**

The following Compensation Discussion and Analysis, or CD&A, describes our overall compensation philosophy and the primary components of our compensation program. Furthermore, the CD&A explains the process by which the Compensation Committee or Committee determined the 2006 compensation for our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and three other most highly compensated officers, as named in the Summary Compensation Table on page 13. We refer to these individuals collectively as the named executives or the named executive officers.

### Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

The fundamental objectives of our executive compensation program are to attract and retain highly qualified executive officers, motivate these executive officers to materially contribute to our long-term business success, and align the interests of our executive officers and stockholders by rewarding our executives for individual and corporate performance based on targets established by the Committee.

We believe that achievement of these compensation program objectives enhances long-term profitability and stockholder value. The elements utilized to help achieve the Committee s objectives include the following:

*Accountability for Individual Performance*. Compensation should in large part depend on the named executive s individual performance in order to motivate and acknowledge the key contributors to our success.

*Recognition for Business Performance.* Compensation should take into consideration our overall financial performance and overall growth.

*Attracting and Retaining Talented Executives.* Compensation should generally reflect the competitive marketplace and be designed to attract and retain superior employees in key competitive positions.

We implement our compensation philosophy through setting base salaries for our executive officers, through the use of our executive bonus plan and through reviewing and approving other terms of employment agreements.

#### **Compensation Determination Process**

*Compensation Committee Members.* The Committee is responsible for establishing, overseeing and reviewing executive compensation policies and for approving, validating and benchmarking the compensation and benefits for named executive officers. The Committee is also responsible for determining the fees paid to our outside directors. The Committee includes Mr. Ralph Bartel (Chair) and Ms. Kelly M. Urso. Ms. Urso satisfies the independence requirements of the National Association of Securities Dealers. The Compensation Committee does not have a charter.

*Role of Management.* During 2006, the Committee engaged in its annual review of executive compensation with the goal of ensuring the appropriate combination of fixed and variable compensation linked to individual and corporate performance. In the course of its review, the Committee considered the advice and input of the Company s CEO and data prepared by management, including a comparison of the current compensation of the named executive officers with publicly available industry data from The Wall Street Journal. The Wall Street Journal data utilized by the Committee included salary and total compensation information based on the title, job description, and geographic location of similarly situated executives. The most significant aspects of the CEO s role in the compensation determination process are evaluating employee performance, establishing business performance targets, goals and objectives and recommending salary and bonus levels.

The Committee compared the compensation received by the Company s named executive officers with the levels of compensation received by similarly situated executives in the same geographic location in light of the named executives responsibilities, performance, experience and tenure, in order to arrive at the total compensation package for each of the named executive officers. In some cases, the compensation package that the Committee awarded a named executive officer was at or below the median compensation received by executives per the Wall Street Journal data, while in other instances the compensation was higher due to the individual named executive s responsibilities, performance, experience and tenure.

Mr. Bartel did not participate in the determination of his compensation during 2006. The Committee did not engage an outside consulting firm to provide advice on executive compensation.

# Components of Executive Compensation

The Committee has structured an executive compensation program comprised of base salary, cash bonus and non-equity incentive pay.

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*Base Salary.* The Committee considered two types of potential base salary increases for the named executive officers in 2006: (1) merit increases based upon each named executive s individual performance; and/or (2) market adjustments based upon the salary range for similarly situated executives.

In determining merit increases, the Committee considers the specific responsibilities of the executive and the executive s overall performance and tenure with the Company. In addition, the Committee also considers the CEO s evaluation of each named executive officer in making the decision regarding merit increases.

The Committee determines any market adjustments based on the Committee s comparison of the executive s compensation with statistical information on average compensation for similarly situated executives that is publicly available through the Wall Street Journal.

During 2006, the Committee increased the salaries of the named executive officers effective July 1, 2006 as follows:

Ralph Bartel s base salary increased from \$350,000 to \$367,500;

Wayne Lee s base salary increased from \$140,000 to \$170,000 (effective as of June 12, 2006);

Holger Bartel s base salary increased from \$320,000 to \$336,000;

Christopher Loughlin s base salary increased from \$218,390 to \$368,590; and

Shirley Tafoya s base salary increased from \$330,000 to \$346,500.

After these base salary increases, Mr. Ralph Bartel s, Mr. Holger Bartel s and Mr. Lee s base salary remained below the level of compensation for similarly situated executives. Ms. Tafoya s base salary was set above the median level of compensation for similarly situated executives based on the Committee s evaluation of Ms. Tafoya s specific experience and the competition for similarly qualified executives in its market.

*Executive Bonus Plan* We believe that the Executive Bonus Plan provides the Company with a valuable tool to assist in focusing executives on accomplishing operational and financial objectives over the Company s quarterly periods. The plan is designed to reward the Company s executives for achieving their quarterly targets as set per the Company s Master Budget.

On June 9, 2006, the Committee amended the Executive Bonus Plan and renamed the plan the North America Executive Bonus Plan, effective July 1, 2006. The amount of the quarterly bonus was increased from \$15,000 to \$50,000. The Committee determined that the increase to the bonus available would provide a higher level of incentive on accomplishing the Company s operational and financial objectives.

As of July 1, 2006, the Committee determined that of the named executive officers, Mr. Ralph Bartel, Mr. Holger Bartel, Mr. Wayne Lee and Ms. Shirley Tafoya would be eligible to participate in the North America Executive Bonus Plan; such named executives are collectively referred to in this section as the participating executives. Effective as of July 1, 2006, the participating executives were eligible to receive a bonus of \$50,000 per quarter upon the attainment of the following goals:

both of the following quarterly targets are met: (i) the revenue target as set forth in the Company s North America Master Budget and there are not more than two customers that account for 10% or more of the Company s worldwide consolidated revenues for the quarter and no single customer accounts for more than

15% of the Company s worldwide revenues for the quarter; and (ii) the operating income target as set forth in the Company s North America Master Budget; and

two of the following three quarterly targets as set forth in the Company s North America Master Budget are met: (i) collections; (ii) subscriber targets; or (iii) staffing goals.

The North America Master Budget is set at the beginning of the year by the CEO and provides quarterly targets for revenues, operating expenses, operating income, net income, subscribers, headcount, days sales outstanding, and other financial and non-financial performance metrics. The Company reserves the right to amend the North America Master Budget at any time and for any reason. The quarterly targets were not met for the third and fourth quarters of 2006 when the plan was in place and no bonuses were paid to the participating executives.

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Prior to July 1, 2006, Mr. Ralph Bartel, Mr. Holger Bartel, Ms. Shirley Tafoya and Mr. Christopher Loughlin, which we refer to as the first half participating executives in this section, were eligible to participate in the Company s Executive Bonus Plan. Under this plan, the first half participating executives were eligible to receive a bonus of \$15,000 per quarter upon the attainment of the following goals:

both of the following quarterly targets, as set forth in the Master Budget, are met: (i) revenue target; and (ii) net income target; and

two of the following three quarterly targets as set forth in the Company s Master Budget are met: (i) collections; (ii) subscriber targets; or (iii) staffing goals.

The Master Budget was set at the beginning of the year by the CEO and provided quarterly targets for revenues, operating expenses, operating income, subscribers, headcount, days sales outstanding, and other financial and non-financial performance metrics. The Company reserved the right to amend the Master Budget at any time and for any reason. The quarterly targets were met for the first quarter of 2006 when the plan was in place and a \$15,000 bonus was paid in April 2006 to the first half participating executives.

*Other Incentive Bonus Pay.* In 2006, Ms. Shirley Tafoya and Mr. Christopher Loughlin also received incentive bonuses pursuant to the terms of their employment agreements.

Pursuant to the terms of Ms. Tafoya s employment agreement dated May 8, 2001, as amended, Ms. Tafoya received a quarterly commission equal to 1.0% of the Company s net advertising revenues generated from the sales of advertising on the *Travelzoo* Website and the *Top 20* newsletter. The commission is capped at 1.0% of the Company s net advertising revenues in the second quarter of fiscal year 2003. In 2006, Ms. Tafoya received \$42,878 per quarter, which represents the maximum capped amount of the commission.

Pursuant to the terms of Mr. Loughlin s employment agreement dated May 16, 2005, as amended effective July 1, 2006, Mr. Loughlin is eligible to receive quarterly and annual bonuses. Mr. Loughlin s bonuses are payable in British pounds and have been translated into U.S. dollars for the purposes of this summary. Mr. Loughlin is eligible to receive the following quarterly bonuses:

| Criteria  | Quarterl<br>Payment<br>July 1, | prior to       | Quarterl<br>Paymer<br>July 1 | nt after         |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Revenue goal as defined in the official budget for Europe is met<br>Net income goal as defined in the official budget for Europe is met | \$<br>\$                       | 9,215<br>9,215 | \$<br>\$                     | 13,822<br>13,822 |
| Subscriber goal as defined in the official budget for Europe is met   | \$                             | 9,215          | \$                           | 13,822           |
| Performance evaluation by the Chairman of the Company   | Up to \$                       | 9,215          | Up to \$                     | 13,822           |
| Total   | Up to \$                       | 36,860         | Up to \$                     | 55,288           |

Under the terms of the annual bonus plan set forth in Mr. Loughlin s employment agreement, prior to July 1, 2006, Mr. Loughlin was eligible to receive a 15% profit sharing bonus based on Travelzoo Europe s pro forma operating income (before expenses relating to the profit sharing plan and before taxes) generated from sales and/or operations in the UK, with such bonus capped at \$1,842,950. Beginning on July 1, 2006, Mr. Loughlin is eligible to receive 20% of

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Travelzoo Europe s pro forma operating income generated from operations in Europe and such amount is not capped. In 2006, Mr. Loughlin received \$129,944 and \$0 pursuant to the quarterly and annual bonus plans, respectively, set forth in his employment agreement.

*Cash Bonus.* In 2006, the CEO decided to award all individuals employed by the Company as of March 31, 2006 with a \$1,500 cash bonus due to the Company s performance and results during the first quarter of 2006. Such cash bonus was grossed-up to cover any taxes due in connection with such bonus. The CEO declared such cash bonus in his sole discretion and not pursuant to any written plan. At this time, we do not expect to make similar payments in the future. However, the CEO and/or the Committee may determine to declare such bonus payments from time to time as deemed reasonable and necessary to award the Company s employees for the Company s overall financial performance and results.

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# Other Compensation-Related Matters

*Perquisites and Additional Benefits.* The Company seeks to maintain an open and inclusive culture in its facilities and operations among executives and other Company employees. Accordingly, the Company does not provide executives with reserved parking spaces or separate dining or other facilities, nor does the Company have programs for providing personal-benefit perquisites to executives, such as permanent lodging, club dues or defraying the cost of personal entertainment. Named executive officers and employees may seek reimbursement for business related expenses in accordance with our business expense reimbursement policy.

*Employment Agreements.* The Company has entered into employment agreements with the named executive officers, some of which contain severance and change of control provisions. The terms of such employment agreements are described in more detail below in *Employment Agreements and Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change-in-Control.* The Committee believes these agreements are appropriate for a number of reasons including the following:

the agreements assist in attracting and retaining executives as we compete for talented employees in a marketplace where such agreements are commonly offered;

the change in control provisions require terminated executives to execute a release in order to receive severance benefits; and

the change in control and severance provisions help retain key personnel during rumored or actual acquisitions or similar corporate changes.

# **Compensation Committee Report**

The information contained in this report shall not be deemed to be soliciting material or filed with the SEC or subject to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act ), except to the extent that Travelzoo specifically incorporates it by reference into a document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ) or the Exchange Act.

The Company s Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis with management and, based on such review and discussions, the Compensation Committee recommended to the Company s board of directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in this proxy statement on Schedule 14A.

**Compensation Committee** 

Ralph Bartel (Chairman) Kelly M. Urso

# **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

During 2006, Ralph Bartel, our Chief Executive Officer, and Kelly M. Urso were members of the Compensation Committee. Mr. Ralph Bartel did not participate in the determination of his compensation as an executive officer during 2006. In 2006, there were no transactions between the Company and Mr. Ralph Bartel, other than the payment of Mr. Ralph Bartel s salary and reimbursement of Company-related expenses.

#### **Summary Compensation Table**

The following summary compensation table sets forth information concerning the compensation to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and three other most highly compensated executive officers during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006.

|                                 | Non-Equity |          |       |           |            |        |    |              |    |            |               |
|---------------------------------|------------|----------|-------|-----------|------------|--------|----|--------------|----|------------|---------------|
|                                 |            |          |       |           |            |        | Iı | ncentive     |    | All        |               |
|                                 |            |          |       |           |            | Option |    | Plan         |    | Other      |               |
|                                 | Fiscal     | Salar    | V     | Bonus     |            |        | on | npensation C | om | -          | Total         |
| Name and Principal Position     | Year       | (\$)     |       | (\$)      | (\$)       | (\$)   |    | (\$)(1)      |    | (\$)       | (\$)          |
| Ralph Bartel                    | 2006       | \$ 329,7 | 23    | 6 1,500(4 | )          |        | \$ | 15,000(6)    | \$ | 1,500(9)   | \$<br>347,723 |
| Chairman, President, and Chief  |            |          |       |           |            |        |    |              |    |            |               |
| Executive Officer               |            |          |       |           |            |        |    |              |    |            |               |
| Wayne Lee(2)                    | 2006       | \$ 154,0 | 83 \$ | 5 1,500(4 | -)         |        |    |              | \$ | 3,000(10)  | \$<br>158,583 |
| Chief Financial Officer         |            |          |       |           |            |        |    |              |    |            |               |
| Holger Bartel                   | 2006       | \$ 328,0 | 00 \$ | 5 1,500(4 | -)         |        | \$ | 15,000(6)    | \$ | 3,000(10)  | \$<br>347,500 |
| <b>Executive Vice President</b> |            |          |       |           |            |        |    |              |    |            |               |
| Christopher Loughlin(3)         | 2006       | \$ 293,4 | 90 \$ | 5 1,500(4 | -)         |        | \$ | 144,944(7)   | \$ | 16,396(11) | \$<br>456,330 |
| Executive Vice President,       |            |          |       |           |            |        |    |              |    |            |               |
| Europe                          |            |          |       |           |            |        |    |              |    |            |               |
| Shirley Tafoya                  | 2006       | \$ 338,2 | 50 \$ | 5 2,750(5 | <i>i</i> ) |        | \$ | 186,510(8)   | \$ | 1,500(9)   | \$<br>529,010 |
| Senior Vice President of Sales  |            |          |       |           |            |        |    |              |    |            |               |

- (1) The amounts reflected in this column reflect the performance-based cash awards paid to the named executives under our executive bonus plan and pursuant to certain employment agreements, as discussed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis above. These amounts were paid during 2006 with the exception of amounts due for the fourth quarter of 2006, which were paid in January 2007.
- (2) Mr. Lee became the Chief Financial Officer on September 17, 2006. Mr. Ralph Bartel fulfilled the duties of this position prior to Mr. Lee s appointment.
- (3) Mr. Loughlin s compensation is denominated in British pounds and was translated into U.S. dollars using the average 2006 daily exchange rate of  $\pounds 1 = \$1.8426$  per OANDA Corporation.
- (4) Amount consists of a \$1,500 bonus payment made to all employees of the Company as of the end of March 31, 2006.
- (5) Amount consists of a \$1,500 bonus payment made to all employees of the Company as of the end of March 31, 2006 and a discretionary \$1,250 employee bonus award.
- (6) Amounts consist of bonuses earned during fiscal 2006 under our executive bonus plan.
- (7) Of this amount, \$129,944 was earned during fiscal 2006 under the Quarterly Performance Bonus Plan per the terms of Mr. Loughlin s employment agreement and \$15,000 was from bonuses earned during fiscal 2006 under our executive bonus plan.

- (8) Of this amount, \$171,510 was from commissions earned during fiscal 2006 under the terms of Ms. Tafoya s employment agreement and \$15,000 was from bonuses earned during fiscal 2006 under our executive bonus plan.
- (9) Amount consists of gross-up for taxes on bonus payments.
- (10) Amount consists of the Company s matching contribution of \$1,500 under the tax-qualified 401(k) Plan and \$1,500 for the gross-up for taxes on bonus payments.
- (11) Amount consists of the Company s contribution of \$15,449 to the UK Employee Pension Contribution Plan and \$947 for the gross-up of taxes on bonus payments.

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# **Grants of Plan-Based Awards**

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to non-equity incentive plan awards granted to each of our named executive officers during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006.

|                   | Estimated Pos<br>Unc<br>Non-Equity I<br>Awa | der<br>ncentive Plan |
|-------------------|---|----------------------|
|                   | Threshold                                   | Target               |
| Name              | (\$)  | (\$)                 |
| Ralph Bartel(1)   |   | 130,000              |
| Wayne Lee(1)      |   | 100,000              |
| Holger Bartel(1)  |   | 130,000              |
| Chris Loughlin(1) |   | 30,000               |
| Chris Loughlin(2) |   | 184,295              |
| Shirley Tafoya(1) |   | 130,000              |
| Shirley Tafoya(3) |   | 171,510              |

- (1) Amount represents the potential payments under the quarterly incentive bonus pay program. The business measurements and performance goals for determining the payout are described in the Compensation Discussion & Analysis.
- (2) Amount represents the potential quarterly bonus payments under the terms of Mr. Loughlin s employment agreement. Mr. Loughlin was also eligible for an annual bonus payment which did not have a targeted payout amount, as the amount that Mr. Loughlin may receive for such bonus is not capped. The measurements for determining the quarterly and annual payouts are described in the Compensation Discussion & Analysis.
- (3) Amount represents the potential commission payments under the terms of Ms. Tafoya s employment agreement. The measurement for determining the payout are described in the Compensation Discussion & Analysis.

# **Outstanding Equity Awards at December 31, 2006**

The following table sets forth certain information concerning equity awards for each of our named executive officers that remained outstanding as of December 31, 2006.

|              | Number of<br>Securities<br>Underlying     | Number of<br>Securities<br>Underlying       | Ontion                              |                              |
|--------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Name         | Unexercised<br>Options (#)<br>Exercisable | Unexercised<br>Options (#)<br>Unexercisable | Option<br>Exercise<br>Price<br>(\$) | Option<br>Expiration<br>Date |
| Ralph Bartel | 29,700                                    |   | 2.00                                | 10/30/2011                   |

| Ralph Bartel  | 4,950 | 3.00 | 3/25/2012  |
|---------------|-------|------|------------|
| Holger Bartel | 300   | 2.00 | 10/30/2011 |
| Holger Bartel | 50    | 3.00 | 3/25/2012  |

# **Option Exercises and Stock Vested**

For the year ended December 31, 2006, there were no option exercises or stock vested.

### **Employment Agreements and Potential Payments Upon Termination or Change-in-Control**

The Company has employment agreements with its named executive officers and certain other employees. The employment agreements as of December 31, 2006 with the Company s named executive officers are described below.

Mr. Ralph Bartel entered into an employment agreement with the Company on April 1, 2000. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, Mr. Ralph Bartel is an at-will employee and the Company or Mr. Ralph Bartel may

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terminate the agreement, with or without cause, upon two weeks prior written notice. Mr. Ralph Bartel is not entitled to receive any severance or change of control benefits under the terms of the agreement. Mr. Ralph Bartel is paid a base salary and is eligible to participate in the Company s executive bonus plan. In addition, Mr. Ralph Bartel is entitled to participate in or receive such benefits under the Company s employee benefits plans and policies as may be in effect from time to time.

Mr. Ralph Bartel agreed that the Company will own any discoveries and work product (as defined in the agreement) made during the term of his employment and to assign all of his interest in any and all such discoveries and work product to the Company. Furthermore, Mr. Ralph Bartel agreed to not, directly or indirectly, perform services for, or engage in, any business competitive with the Company during the period of his employment. He also agreed to not, directly or indirectly, solicit the Company s customers or employees during the term of his employment and for a period of one year thereafter.

Mr. Wayne Lee entered into an employment agreement with the Company on December 9, 2005. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, Mr. Lee is an at-will employee and the Company or Mr. Lee may terminate the agreement, with or without cause, upon two weeks prior written notice. Mr. Lee is not entitled to receive any severance or change of control benefits under the terms of the agreement. Mr. Lee is paid a base salary and is entitled to participate in or receive such benefits under the Company s employee benefits plans and policies as may be in effect from time to time.

Mr. Lee agreed that the Company will own any discoveries and work product (as defined in the agreement) made during the term of his employment and to assign all of his interest in any and all such discoveries and work product to the Company. Furthermore, Mr. Lee agreed to not, directly or indirectly, perform services for, or engage in, any business competitive with the Company or solicit the Company s customers or employees during the term of his employment and for a period of one year thereafter.

Ms. Shirley Tafoya entered into an employment agreement with the Company on May 8, 2001. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, Ms. Tafoya is an at-will employee and the Company or Ms. Tafoya may terminate the agreement, with or without cause, upon two weeks prior written notice. However, if Ms. Tafoya s employment is terminated at any time due to a change of control (as defined in the agreement) or if she is not offered a position of comparable pay and responsibilities in the same geographic area in which she worked immediately prior to a change of control, Ms. Tafoya will be entitled to receive her base salary and medical benefits for a six month period in exchange for executing a general release of claims as to the Company. Assuming that Ms. Tafoya would be entitled to receive \$173,250 and the company would incur additional expenses for medical benefits of approximately \$4,575.

Ms. Tafoya is paid a base salary and is eligible to participate in the Company s executive bonus plan. Ms. Tafoya also receives a 1.0% commission on net advertising revenues (as defined in the agreement) generated from the sales of advertising on the *Travelzoo* Website and the *Top 20* newsletter; such commission is capped at 1.0% of the Company s net advertising revenues in the second quarter of 2003. In addition, Ms. Tafoya is entitled to participate in or receive such benefits under the Company s employee benefits plans and policies as may be in effect from time to time.

Ms. Tafoya agreed that the Company will own any discoveries and work product (as defined in the agreement) made during the term of her employment and to assign all of her interest in any and all such discoveries and work product to the Company. Furthermore, Ms. Tafoya agreed to not, directly or indirectly, solicit the Company s customers or employees during the term of her employment and for a period of one year thereafter.

Mr. Holger Bartel entered into an employment agreement with the Company on November 1, 2000. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, Mr. Holger Bartel is an at-will employee and the Company or Mr. Holger Bartel may terminate the agreement, with or without cause, upon two weeks prior written notice. Mr. Holger Bartel is not entitled

to receive any severance or change of control benefits under the terms of the agreement. Mr. Holger Bartel is paid a base salary and is entitled to participate in or receive such benefits under the Company s employee benefits plans and policies as may be in effect from time to time.

Mr. Holger Bartel agreed that the Company will own any discoveries and work product (as defined in the agreement) made during the term of his employment and to assign all of his interest in any and all such discoveries and work product to the Company. Furthermore, Mr. Holger Bartel agreed to not, directly or indirectly, perform services for, or engage in, any business competitive with the Company during the period of his employment. He also agreed to not, directly or indirectly, solicit the Company s customers or employees during the term of his employment and for a period of one year thereafter.

Mr. Christopher Loughlin entered into an employment agreement with the Company on May 16, 2005. The term of the agreement is three years, commencing on May 16, 2005, after which time either party may terminate the agreement, with or without cause, upon twelve months prior written notice. During the initial term, the Company can terminate the agreement for cause (as defined in the agreement) without any severance obligations. The Company can also terminate the agreement without cause by making a payment equal to the amount of base salary that Mr. Loughlin would be entitled to receive during the balance of the initial term or any notice period. Assuming that Mr. Loughlin was terminated by the Company without cause as of December 31, 2006, Mr. Loughlin would be entitled to receive \$506,811.

Mr. Loughlin is paid a base salary and is entitled to certain annual and quarterly bonuses. See *Components of Executive Compensation Other Incentive Bonus Pay* above for a description of such bonuses. Mr. Loughlin is also eligible to participate in the Company s UK Employee Pension Contribution Program, pursuant to which the Company contributes 7% of his base salary to the pension. Mr. Loughlin is also entitled to participate in any private health insurance scheme that may be arranged by the Company for its executives. The Company agreed to pay for six economy class tickets from the United States to London for Mr. Loughlin s spouse between May 16, 2005 and May 31, 2006. Mr. Loughlin did not use any such tickets during 2006.

Mr. Loughlin agreed to not, directly or indirectly, engage or become interested in any business competitive with the Company during the term of the agreement. In addition, Mr. Loughlin agreed to not, directly or indirectly, solicit any of the Company s customers or perform services for, or engage in, any business competitive with the Company for a period for six months after the termination of his employment. Mr. Loughlin also agreed that the Company will own any inventions or intellectual property created during the term of his employment and to assign all of his interest in any such intellectual property to the Company.

# **Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions**

The Company maintains policies and procedures to ensure that our directors, executive officers and employees avoid conflicts of interest. Our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Controller for North America are subject to our Code of Ethics and each signs the policy to ensure compliance. Our Code of Ethics requires our leadership to act with honesty and integrity, and to fully disclose to the Audit Committee any material transaction that reasonably could be expected to give rise to an actual or apparent conflict of interest. The Code of Ethics requires that our leadership obtain the prior written approval of the Audit Committee before proceeding with or engaging in any conflict of interest.

Our Audit Committee Charter further provides that the Audit Committee will review all related party transactions and potential conflict of interest situations involving the Company s principal stockholders, directors or senior management. Upon notice of a potential conflict of interest, the Audit Committee will evaluate the transaction to determine if it is in the Company s best interests and whether, in the Audit Committee s judgment, the terms of such transaction are at least as beneficial to us as the terms we could obtain in a similar transaction with an independent third party.

In 2006, there were no related party transactions exceeding \$120,000 between the Company and its directors, executive officers or principal stockholders.

### **Performance Graph**

The following graph compares, for the five year period ending December 31, 2006, the cumulative total stockholder return for Travelzoo, the NASDAQ Stock Market (U.S. companies) Index (the NASDAQ Market Index ), and the Standard & Poor s 500 Publishing Index (the S&P 500 Publishing ). Measurement points are the last trading day of each of the Company s fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, December 31, 2003, December 31, 2004, December 31, 2005, and December 31, 2006. The graph assumes that \$100 was invested on December 31, 2002 in the Common Stock of the Company, the NASDAQ Market Index and the S&P 500 Publishing and assumes reinvestment of any dividends. The stock price performance on the following graph is not indicative of future stock price performance.

| Measurement Point   | 12/31/2002 | 12/31/2003 | 12/31/2004  | 12/31/2005 | 12/31/2006 |
|---------------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Travelzoo Inc.      | \$ 100.00  | \$ 217.50  | \$ 2,385.75 | \$ 550.00  | \$ 748.75  |
| NASDAQ Market Index | \$ 100.00  | \$ 149.51  | \$ 162.36   | \$ 164.95  | \$ 180.66  |
| S&P 500 Publishing  | \$ 100.00  | \$ 118.80  | \$ 115.28   | \$ 100.68  | \$ 115.81  |

### **Independent Public Accountants**

KPMG LLP (KPMG) served as Travelzoo s independent registered public accounting firm for our 2006 fiscal year. KPMG representatives are not expected to be present at the Annual Meeting or to make a formal statement. Consequently, representatives of KPMG will not be available to respond to questions at the meeting.

The Audit Committee has not yet selected our independent registered public accounting firm for our 2007 fiscal year. The Audit Committee annually reviews the performance of our independent registered public accounting firm and the fees charged for their services. This review has not yet been completed. Based upon the results of this review, the Audit Committee will determine which independent registered public accounting firm to engage to perform our annual audit. Stockholders approval of our accounting firm is not required by our bylaws or otherwise required to be submitted to the stockholders.

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### **Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

During fiscal year 2005 and 2006, KPMG charged fees for services rendered to Travelzoo as follows:

| Service   | 2005 Fees  | 2006 Fees  |
|---|------------|------------|
| Audit fees(1)<br>Audit-related fees<br>Tax fees<br>All other fees | \$ 898,760 | \$ 736,240 |
| Total   | \$ 898,760 | \$ 736,240 |

(1) Audit fees consisted of fees for professional services rendered for the annual audit of Company s consolidated financial statements and review of the interim consolidated financial statements included in quarterly reports.

### Policy on Audit Committee Pre-Approval of Audit and Permissible Non-Audit Services of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Audit Committee pre-approves all audit and permissible non-audit services provided by the Company s independent registered public accounting firm. These services may include audit services, audit-related services, tax and other services. Pre-approval is generally provided for up to one year, and any pre-approval is detailed as to the particular service or category of services and is generally subject to a specific budget. The independent registered public accounting firm and management are required to periodically report to the Audit Committee regarding the extent of services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm in accordance with this pre-approval, and the fees for the services performed to date. The Audit Committee may also pre-approve particular services on a case-by-case basis. During 2005 and 2006, all services provided by KPMG were pre-approved by the Audit Committee in accordance with this policy

# Voting

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law and our certificate of incorporation and bylaws, the presence, in person or represented by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our stock is necessary to constitute a quorum of stockholders to take action at the Annual Meeting. Once a quorum of stockholders is established, the affirmative vote of a plurality of the shares, which are present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting, is required to elect each director. The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares entitled to vote and present in person or by proxy in favor of any other matter properly brought before the Annual Meeting is required to approve of such action.

Shares represented by proxies which are marked vote withheld with respect to the election of any person to serve on the Board of Directors will not be considered in determining whether such a person has received the affirmative vote of a plurality of the shares. Shares represented by proxies that are marked abstain with respect to any other proposal will not be considered in determining whether such proposal has received the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares and such proxies will not have the effect of a no vote.

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Shares represented by proxies which deny the proxy-holder discretionary authority to vote on any other proposal will not be considered in determining whether such proposal has received the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares and such proxies will not have the effect of a no vote.

We know of no matters to come before the Annual Meeting except as described in this Proxy Statement. If any other matters properly come before the Annual Meeting, the proxies solicited hereby will be voted on such matters in accordance with the judgment of the persons voting such proxies.

### Stockholder Proposals for the 2008 Annual Meeting

Proposals of eligible stockholders intended to be presented at the 2008 Annual Meeting must be received by us by February 15, 2008 for inclusion in our proxy statement and proxy relating to that meeting. Upon receipt of any

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such proposal, we will determine whether or not to include such proposal in the proxy statement and proxy in accordance with regulations governing the solicitation of proxies.

If a stockholder wishes to present a proposal at Travelzoo s Annual Meeting in the year 2008 or to nominate one or more directors and the proposal is not intended to be included in Travelzoo s proxy statement relating to that meeting, the stockholder must give advance written notice to Travelzoo by March 15, 2008. These requirements are separate from and in addition to the requirements a stockholder must meet to have a proposal included in our proxy statement.

Any such notice must be delivered or mailed to our Corporate Secretary, at Travelzoo Inc., 590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, New York 10022. Any stockholder desiring a copy of our bylaws will be forwarded one upon written request.

### Householding

As permitted by applicable law, only one copy of this Proxy Statement is being delivered to stockholders residing at the same address, unless such stockholders have notified the Company of their desire to receive multiple copies of the Proxy Statement.

The Company will promptly deliver, upon oral or written request, a separate copy of the Proxy Statement to any stockholder residing at an address to which only one copy was mailed. Requests for additional copies, or requests for a single copy to be delivered to a shared address should be directed to Investor Relations, Travelzoo Inc., 590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor, New York, New York 10022 or by telephone at (212) 521-4200.

#### Other

We will bear the cost of solicitation of proxies. Proxies will be solicited by mail and also may be solicited by our executive officers and other employees personally or by telephone, but such persons will not be specifically compensated for such services. It is contemplated that brokerage houses, custodians, nominees and fiduciaries will be requested to forward the soliciting material to the beneficial owners of stock held of record by such persons and we will reimburse them for their reasonable expenses incurred in connection therewith.

Even if you plan to attend the meeting in person, please sign, date and return the enclosed proxy promptly in accordance with the instructions shown on the enclosed proxy. You have the power to revoke your proxy, at any time before it is exercised, by giving written notice of revocation to our Corporate Secretary or by duly executing and delivering a proxy bearing a later date, or by attending the Annual Meeting and casting a contrary vote. All shares represented by proxies received in time to be counted at the Annual Meeting will be voted. Your cooperation in giving this your immediate attention will be appreciated.

#### RALPH BARTEL

Chairman of the Board of Directors, President, and Chief Executive Officer

590 Madison Avenue, 21st Floor New York, New York 10022

# **Appendix A: Audit Committee Charter**

# I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Audit Committee (the Committee ) will assist the Board of Directors (the Board ) of Travelzoo Inc. (the Company ) in fulfilling the Board s oversight responsibilities with regard to the Company s financial reporting process. The duties of the Committee are ones of oversight. It is not the duty of the Committee to plan or conduct audits or to determine that the Company s financial statements are complete and accurate and prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The primary responsibility for the Company s financial statements and internal controls rests with the Company s management. Similarly, it is not the duty of the Committee to conduct investigations or to assure compliance with laws and regulations or to monitor the Company s legal compliance programs. The primary responsibility for these matters also rests with the Company s management. The Board recognizes that the Committee necessarily will rely on the advice and information it receives from the Company s management and independent auditors. Recognizing these inherent limits on the scope of the Committee s review, however, the Board expects the Committee to exercise independent judgment in assessing the quality of the Company s financial reporting process and its internal controls. The Board also expects that the Committee will maintain free and open communication with the other directors, the Company s independent auditors and the financial management of the Company.

# II. COMPOSITION OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Committee shall be comprised of at least three members of the Board, with the number of members to be determined from time to time by the Board. The members shall be designated by the Board, and the composition of the Committee shall, in the judgment of the Board, be such as to comply with (i) Rule 4350(d)(2) of The NASDAQ Stock Market Rules, or the applicable rule governing audit committees of such other national market system or exchange on which the Company s stock may be traded from time to time, (ii) Sections 301 and 407 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and any rules or regulations promulgated thereunder (the Act ), and (iii) any successor laws, rules or regulations.

# **III. MEETINGS**

The Committee shall meet at least four times annually, or more frequently as the Committee may from time to time determine may be appropriate. At least quarterly, the Committee shall meet in separate executive sessions with the Company s Chief Financial Officer, the independent auditors and the Controller. Unless the Board has previously designated the Chair, the members of the Committee shall designate a Chair by majority vote. Two or more committee members shall constitute a quorum.

At the invitation of the Chair of the Committee, the meetings will be attended by the Chair of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Controller, representatives from the independent audit firm, and/or other persons as are appropriate to matters under consideration.

# IV. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The duties and responsibilities of the Committee shall include the following:

# A. Independent Auditors

1. Receive the written disclosures and letter from the Company s independent auditors contemplated by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1, *Independence Discussions with Audit Committees*, as the same may be modified or

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supplemented, and discuss with the independent auditors any issues required to be discussed regarding their objectivity and independence. Receive the disclosures, as the same may be modified or supplemented, required by Section 204 of the Act, and discuss with the independent auditors any issues disclosed therein. Approve, in advance, the retention of the independent auditors for any non-audit service permissible under Sections 201 and 202 of the Act and the fee for such service. Consider any significant non-audit assignments awarded to the independent auditors and determine whether or not these have any impact on the independence of the independent auditors in the performance of the annual audit.

2. Annually evaluate the qualifications, the quality control procedures and prior performance of the Company s current independent auditors, which shall be ultimately accountable to the Board and this Committee, as representatives of the shareholders. Based on the representations regarding independence and the results of such evaluation, determine whether to recommend to the Board that the independent auditors be reappointed or replaced and whether it is appropriate to adopt a policy of rotating on a regular basis; provided that the independent auditors must be replaced if the lead audit partner, or the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit, has performed audit services for the Company in each of the five (5) previous fiscal years. If a determination is made to recommend that the current independent auditors be replaced, recommend to the Board such replacement.

3. Meet with the independent auditors and financial management of the Company in advance of the annual audit to review its proposed scope, the proposed scope of the quarterly reviews, and the procedures to be followed in conducting the audit and the reviews.

4. Review and approve the independent auditors annual engagement letter, and the compensation of the independent auditors.

5. Review with the independent auditors any matters required to be discussed by Statement of Auditing Standards No. 61, as the same may be modified or supplemented.

6. Review and discuss, prior to filing, the Company s financial statements proposed to be included in the Company s Annual Report on Form 10-K with the Company s financial management and independent auditors, including major issues regarding accounting and auditing principles and practices as well as the adequacy of internal controls that could significantly affect the Company s financial statements. If deemed appropriate after such review and discussion, recommend to the Board that the financial statements be included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K.

7. Review and discuss, prior to issuance or filing, the Company s financial statements proposed to be included in the Company s public earnings reports and the Company s Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q with the Company s financial management and independent auditors, including the results of the independent auditors quarterly reviews. The Chair of the Committee may represent the entire Committee for purposes of the Form 10-Q review.

8. Discuss at least annually with the Company s independent auditors the following: the adequacy and effectiveness of the Company s internal financial controls; the management letter issued by the independent auditors and management s response thereto; actions management has taken or progress it has made in addressing issues raised by the independent auditors; any difficulties encountered in the course of the audit work, including any restrictions on the scope of activities or access to required information; any disagreements with management; and major areas of financial risk.

9. Review with management and the independent auditors any comments or inquiries from the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to the Company s financial statements or other financial matters included in the Company s filings with the Commission.

10. Obtain reports from management that the Company s subsidiary(ies) are in conformity with applicable legal requirements, including disclosures of insider and affiliated party transactions.

11. Review major changes to the Company s auditing and accounting principles and practices as suggested by the independent auditors or management.

# B. Management

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1. Discuss at least annually with the Company s management and outside counsel the effectiveness of the Company s legal compliance programs, any legal matters that may have a material impact on the Company s financial statements and any material reports or inquiries received from regulators or government agencies.

2. Review all related party transactions and potential conflict of interest situations involving the Company s principal shareholders or members of the Board or senior management.

3. Authorize and oversee investigations deemed appropriate by the Committee into any matters within the Committee s scope of responsibility as described in this Charter or as may subsequently be delegated to the

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Committee by the Board, with the power to retain independent counsel, accountants and other advisors and experts to assist the Committee if deemed appropriate and to determine appropriate compensation for such advisors.

4. Prepare the disclosure required of this Committee by S-K Item 306 of the Securities and Exchange Commission regulations to be included in the Company s annual proxy statement.

5. Review this Charter on an annual basis and make recommendations to the Board concerning any changes deemed appropriate; ensure that this Charter is filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as required.

# C. Other Matters

1. Establish procedures for (i) the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints receive by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters; and (ii) the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.

2. Report actions of the Committee periodically to the Board with such recommendations for action as the Committee deems appropriate.

3. Maintain minutes or other records, either separately or within the minutes of the Board, of meetings and activities of the Committee.

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TRAVELZOO INC. ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS THIS PROXY IS SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS The undersigned hereby appoints Ralph Bartel as his/her Proxy, with full power of substitution, to represent him/her at the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Travelzoo Inc. (the Company ) on June 14, 2007, or any adjournments or postponements thereof. If you do not indicate how you wish to vote, the Proxy will vote for all nominees to the Board of Directors, and as he may determine, in his discretion, with regard to any other matter properly presented at the meeting. (Continued, and to be marked, dated and signed, on the other side)

TRAVELZOO INC. Mailing Instructions If you receive this proxy card via mail, please date and sign it, and return it in the postage paid envelope provided. If you receive this proxy card via e-mail, please print the proxy card, date and sign it, and return it to: Travelzoo Inc. Attention: Corporate Secretary 590 Madison Avenue 21st Floor New York, NY 10022 ? DETACH PROXY CARD HERE ? 1. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS FOR all nominees listed WITHHOLD AUTHORITY to vote for all below (except as marked nominees listed below to the contrary, if any, below) Nominees: 01 Ralph Bartel, 02 Holger Bartel, 03 David Ehrlich, 04 Donovan Neale-May, 05 Kelly Urso. (INSTRUCTIONS: To withhold authority to vote for an individual write that nominee s name in the space provided below.) ?2. SUCH OTHER BUSINESS AS MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE SAID MEETING AND ANY POSTPONEMENT OR ADJOURNMENT THEREOF MARK HERE IF YOU INTEND TO ATTEND THE MEETING The undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of the Proxy Statement and 2006 Annual Report of Travelzoo Inc. Date \_\_\_\_, 2007 \_\_\_\_Before Returning it in the Enclosed Envelope Please Detach Here Signature You Must Detach This Portion of the Proxy Card \_\_\_\_Signature, if jointly held ? Please sign exactly as name appears at left. If stock is jointly held each owner should sign. Executors, Administrators, Trustees, Guardians and Corporate Officers should indicate their fiduciary capacity or full title when signing.